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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/731,535	12/06/2000	Jerome Collin	51005.P200	2069

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EXAMINER

THOMPSON, ANNETTE M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2825

DATE MAILED: 05/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<p align="center">Office Action Summary</p>	Application No. 09/731,535	Applicant(s) JEROME COLLIN ET AL.	
	Examiner A. M. Thompson	Art Unit 2825	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 February 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-43 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 2-6, 8, 16-21, 23, 31, 33, 37, 38 and 42 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 9-11, 35, 39 and 40 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 1, 7, 12-15 and 22, 24-30, 32, 34, 36, 41, 43 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 06 December 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |
|---|--|

DETAILED ACTION

Applicants' After-Final Amendment for 09/731,535 has been examined. The claims are amended. Claims 1-43 are pending.

1. Applicants' After-Final Amendment fails to place this application in a condition for allowance. Although an advisory action is warranted at this stage of the prosecution, Examiner has acceded to Applicants' direct telephonic request to issue a non-final action and provide Applicants additional opportunity to clarify the claims and place them in a condition for allowance. Applicants are strongly encouraged to carefully review and revise the claims in this second non-final action issue.

Drawings

2. Figures 1-13 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

3. **Claims 1, 7, 9, 11-15, 22-24, 26-30, 34, 41, and 43**, and claims dependent therefrom are objected to because of the following informalities:

4. Pursuant to claim 1, "said condensed conversion matrix" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Pursuant to claims 7 and 22, at the last line, specify *what individual signals are being referenced*. Pursuant to claims 9 and 24, "the six categories of output state transitions" and "the plurality of sets of states" lack sufficient antecedent basis.

Art Unit: 2825

Pursuant to claims 11 and 26, "the edge sensitive HDL primitive" and "the level sensitive HDL primitive" lacks sufficient antecedent basis (i.e. the base claim does not recite these elements). Pursuant to claim 12, "the particular set of functions" lacks sufficient antecedent basis; the "edge sensitive HDL primitive" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Additionally, pursuant to claims 12, 13, 14, 15, 27, 28, 29, and 30, these claims require rewording for clarity; it is not sufficient to throw out terms and equations without clarification as to what each term means: identify which terms are functions and which terms are states (L01, etc.) and clarify that "do not cares" are values. Pursuant to claim 23, "the specific format" lacks sufficient antecedent basis. Pursuant to claim 34, it is unclear whether "a column" is the conversion matrix column or some other column not previously recited. Pursuant to claim 41, at line 3, *primitives* is misspelled. Pursuant to claim 43, "the plurality of entries" lack sufficient antecedent basis.

Appropriate correction is required.

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 9-11, 35, 39 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See MPEP § 2172.01. Pursuant to claim 9, the omitted structural cooperative relationships are between "output state transitions" and the remaining claim 9 elements (i.e. output state transitions of what ?). Furthermore, claim 9 is indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant

Art Unit: 2825

regards as the invention. The claim 9 limitations do not reflect Applicants' disclosure (page 15, line 13 to page 16, line 14). Pursuant to claim 10, the omitted structural cooperative relationships are between "individual value states" and the remaining claim 10 elements. Pursuant to claim 11, it is unclear what is meant by E01 and E10 sets being empty since it has not been established apriori that the sets may contain elements. Pursuant to claims 35, 39, and 40, the omitted structural cooperative relationships are between "output state transitions" and the remaining claim 9 elements (i.e. output state transitions of what ?).

Allowable Subject Matter

7. Claims 2-6, 8, 16, 21, 31, 33, 37, 38, and 42 are allowed over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Examiner A.M. Thompson whose telephone number is (571) 272-1909. The Examiner can usually be reached Monday thru Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.. If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Matthew S. Smith, can be reached on (571) 272-1907.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1562 or the Customer Service Center whose telephone number is (571) 272-1750.

9. Responses to this action should be mailed to the appropriate mail stop:

Mail Stop _____

Commissioner for Patents

Application/Control Number: 09/731,535
Art Unit: 2825

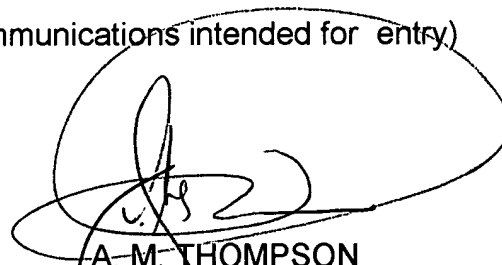
Page 5

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or faxed to:

(703) 872-9306, (for all **OFFICIAL** communications intended for entry.)



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